



United States Department of Agriculture
Rural Development

Community Connect Awards – California

2005 Grant Awards:

Tule River Tribal Council
Tule River Indian Reservation, CA
Grant Amount: \$795,630
Contact: Neil Peyron, 559-781-4271
County: Tulare

The Tule River Indian Reservation is a very rural community of 566 people with limited employment, education and health care opportunities. A fiber network will link tribal members and key community resources to broadband services within and outside the reservation community. The Tule River Tribal Council will provide a community-based network of services to support the educational and social development of reservation residents and to provide a basis for further economic development activities. In addition, the project will provide an infrastructure to support telemedicine services at the Tule River Health Center and other medical facilities on the reservation and to improve public safety and fire prevention and control.

2003 Grant Awards:

Oacys Communications Inc.
Richgrove, California
Grant Amount: \$454,507
Contact: Ted Olson, 559-781-4123
County: Tulare

Richgrove, California is an agricultural community with a per capita income of only 68 percent of the national average and unemployment of over 15 percent. Poverty among families with small children can range as high as 30-60 percent. A unique blend of citizen and community organization leadership, such as the local irrigation district, all businesses and local essential community services, have brought this project together. The community will benefit from economic, educational and public safety opportunities.